

By email, cc. FOCA

Sent: July 1, 2016 4:37 PM
From: Norman Cameron
To: minister.mnrf@ontario.ca
Subject: Dock permitting requirements

Minister Mauro,

I share the concerns of FOCA and its member organizations about the new decisions to require permitting for any dock complex over 162 square feet. In our lakes any floating dock for a 16 foot boat requires at least an 8 foot by 16 foot main section, plus some form of ramp to the shoreline that will usually be at least 8 by 8. Total 192 square feet.

Our local Lion's Club builds docks as part of its fundraising programs. Almost none of the orders we get are for dock complexes are under 162 square feet, and almost none of them are large by the standards of existing docks on the Magnetawan River. So almost all new dock construction in the province will now require a permit from one of your offices. This is a quantum jump in the regulatory load for cottagers.

The facts that MNRF is not ready to meet its obligations under this policy, and is not budgeting funds to be able to meet them even in the future, suggests that the policy will succeed only in generating an impasse with frustration all around. This is not responsible policymaking. I urge you to put this policy on hold until you have resolved these and other issues raised by FOCA and other critics.

Norman Cameron,
Pres., Cecebe Waterways Association